

Brethren Evangelist

"I Am the Way, the Truth and the Life."—Jesus

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Editorial

How do you like it? Examine it.

IF some school will spare us two or three Brethren Quarterlies we will gladly pay at the rate of five cents each to have them mailed to us.

IN taking subscriptions for the paper agents will please remember that \$1.25 pays to the end of 1898. This applies to new subscriptions only.

HAVE you filled out that pledge and sent it to Brother Cassel? Why not? Have you not yet determined how much you can give? Or how little you can give, which?

IF your subscription expires December 1, or after that date, it means that you paid one dollar for the paper the last year and that next year it will cost you \$1.50.

PASTORS and agents will be supplied with extra copies of this paper for use in canvassing. Sample copies will also be sent to any one whom you may suggest to us as likely to become a subscriber.

THOSE knowing themselves indebted to this office will please make remittance as early as possible. At no other time of the year are the financial resources of the office so strained as at this time.

THERE yet remain thirty days in which to take subscriptions at one dollar. After that date both renewals and new subscriptions will be \$1.50. That this is the time to get new subscribers needs no argument. Push the work and do it now.

PASTORS should see that communion notices intended for publication are sent to this office at least three weeks before the time set for the meeting. We should not be asked to unlock the forms to insert such notices, and yet without doing this announcements often appear too late to do any good.

THE columns of this paper are now a *pica* wider and about one inch longer than formerly, adding the equivalent of a little more than two pages. In addition to the enlargement of the paper other improvements have been made and on the whole it is certainly not too much to say that we now have a very creditable paper. Other improvements will be made as time and means will permit. It

has been our aim to make the EVANGELIST a progressive paper, not only an advocate of progressive principles, but progressive in its make up.

IF the gospel has become so distasteful to people that a sort of theatrical performance is necessary to entertain them then either their spiritual appetites have become wonderfully depraved or the minister is feeding them hay and stubble instead of the pure word of God. How is it, preachers?

IF those who are not subscribers receive a copy of this paper they will please remember that it was sent them for examination. After a careful reading ask yourself whether or not as a member of the Brethren church the paper would be worth two cents a week to you. That is all it will cost you now, one dollar for fifty numbers.

UP to the time of this writing we have received but one reply to our request for answers to the question, "What is a Christian?" Do not forget that the offer is open to all subscribers, and that a choice book will be awarded to the one who sends in the most satisfactory answer to the question before December 1, 1897.

IT is understood that the pledges sent out last week when signed are to continue in force until recalled by the one who signs them. Changes can be made at any time. If you desire to give more than originally intended notify Brother Cassel as to the amount you wish to give and he will make the necessary changes.

THE people in the state of Ohio, and perhaps beyond the bounds of the state, rejoice and are glad because of the refreshing rains with which we have been visited during the last week. Now since the wells and cisterns and fields have been abundantly supplied with the much needed rain, let the children of God look to heaven for spiritual showers and times of great refreshing. We can have it for the asking. Will we ask?

SINCE the Brethren church has taken hold of mission work in earnest everything else seems to be moving along much nicer. We have less controversy among ourselves, more unity and more thorough agreement. The church that is actively engaged in mission work and is about the Father's business has no time to quarrel. Why, we have almost forgotten that we are poor, nay, rather

we are just now finding out that we are rich even in this world's goods and that we really have money for the Lord.

THIS is an age when everything is done in a hurry; even preaching must be done in that way. It is an age of steam and electricity; the facility with which things are done in the material world, the spirit which actuates every department of human life, these have been transferred to the spiritual and it is now expected that the minister of the gospel crowds as much into a thirty minute sermon as was formerly contained in an hour's sermon. So pressing has been the demand for short, quickly dispatched sermons that a minister in Philadelphia announced a series of *sermonets* for his Sabbath evening services. It is to be feared that the minister who must resort to sermonets to hold his people is himself a *preacheret* instead of a mighty man with the Lord as he may be and should be.

PUSH the mission work, and do it *now*. Do not wait until after the holidays, for then people will have spent their money for trifles and luxuries and there will be very little left for the Lord. Teach your people that their first duty is to the Lord, that they owe him a certain amount and that they can not be honest with themselves as professing Christians without discharging this obligation. Preach missions and talk missions; get your people thoroughly acquainted with the teachings of the Word on the subject of missions, the cry of the unsaved for help and the claims of Christ upon all his followers, and then appeal to them for contributions. Our people are willing to give and will give when once they see that the church means business and that their contributions will be used to the very best purpose.

As a people we are greatly interested in Bible study, and it is well that we should for the Bible is our only creed, our text book, and every member of the church should be acquainted with his own creed. The EVANGELIST furnishes its readers a school of Bible study and it is hoped that all who can do so will take advantage of it. First of all is the Sunday-school lesson on which we give practical notes and helps, designed to aid the reader in the preparation of his Sabbath morning lesson. Then again we give very practical and suggestive helps on the topic for the young people's Bible study, the meeting for which is usually held on Sabbath evening. Once more the outline on prayer